

# **Innovative Employment Approaches and Programs for Low-Income Families**

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Center on Labor, Human  
Services, and Population

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## APPENDIX A

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS



**Table A.1**  
**Service-Focused Employment Preparation Programs**

Program Name/Overview	Lead Agency/Key Partners	Funding Sources	Target Population/ Enrollment Level	Program Design and Services
<p><b>Anoka County Partnerships for Family Success (PFS) Program</b></p> <p>Anoka, MN</p> <p>To better coordinate a wide range of services for TANF families reaching their time limits, PFS developed a service team with an expert representing each of five departments under the Human Services Division (Corrections, Community Social Services and Mental Health, Community Health and Environmental Services, Income Maintenance, and the Job Training Center) to address client needs in these areas. Enacted in 2005 (but building on a previous similar effort), the program includes an emphasis on bringing expertise on a range of issues into the program, refining service needs, and reducing the number and level of outside service providers involved with each family.</p>	<p>The Anoka County Human Services Division is the lead agency, with each of the five departments playing an important role in providing services. Central Center for Family Resources, a community-based mental health center, provides assistance on mental health issues. The Minnesota Department of Human Services provides guidance and funding.</p>	<p>The program is funded by TANF dollars.</p>	<p>The program targets families receiving services from multiple systems in Anoka County who have multiple barriers to attaining sustained employment. Most participants are TANF recipients, and are generally referred by the TANF program.</p> <p>As of December 2005, 254 families had enrolled in the program. The enrollment goal for the ISP is 300 families per year.</p>	<p>Staff specialize in certain areas, including child protection, criminal justice, public health, vocational rehabilitation, mental health, developmental disabilities, and TANF eligibility. Clients are assigned to a staff person based on their specific needs. A plan for addressing individual and family goals and issues during the assessment phase is developed. Other PFS team members or professionals may be used for consultation or assigned to families as a secondary worker, where appropriate. PFS workers try to provide services to clients within the team whenever possible and, at a minimum, to consolidate services for clients. PFS also has established liaison support from the Child Care Assistance unit, Child Protection, and the Job Training Center. Clients continue to work with a TANF Employment Counselor on employment issues.</p>
<p><b>Ramsey County Integrated Services Project (ISP)</b></p> <p>St. Paul, MN</p> <p>Initiated in 2005, the Ramsey County program is designed to develop and integrate rehabilitation expertise in mental health into the county TANF program, while accessing new funding outside of TANF. The ISP provides financial support to all county TANF Employment Service Providers to meet capacity and certification standards to provide services under Adult Rehabilitative Mental Health Services (ARMHS). Services provided by ARMHS-certified providers help individuals with mental illness or poor mental health to improve functionality while they continue to participate in TANF employment services.</p>	<p>The Ramsey County Community Human Services is the lead agency, with guidance and funding provided the Minnesota Department of Human Services. Several TANF employment service providers in the county (Ramsey County Workforce Solutions, Employment Action Center, Hmong American Partnership, HIRED, Lifetrack Resources, Goodwill/Easter Seals) are under contract to provide ARMHS services, in addition to providing standard TANF employment services. Staff at Ramsey County Community Human Services, Mental Health Division played a lead role in staff training and program development.</p>	<p>The program is funded by TANF dollars.</p>	<p>The ISP is targeting TANF participants with serious mental illness. Potential participants are generally identified and referred by the TANF program.</p> <p>As of December 2005, 104 families had enrolled in the program.</p>	<p>Through an application process, TANF employment service providers become certified to provide ARMHS services, and then are able to deliver the services to eligible TANF clients. Certified staff are able to bill to Minnesota's Medicaid program for the services provided. In this way, the program is designed to be self-sustaining and not rely on special grant funding. Before ARMHS services may begin, clients must receive a diagnostic and a functional assessment by a mental health professional, indicating the clients' medical necessity for receiving mental health services. Once clients are deemed eligible, an ARMHS Case Worker develops a treatment plan with the client, which identifies functional goals. Services under ARMHS may include training on basic living skills, education on mental health symptoms, medications, and side effects, or engaging and training individuals in the community such as employers or family members to support the clients. Staff generally provide services in the community, and often in the clients' homes. When participating in ARMHS services, clients remain enrolled in TANF and continue to work on their TANF employment plan.</p>

















































































































